## Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 SNM-02 JUSE-00 DEAE-00

SY-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCA-01 SSO-00

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P R 171819Z JAN 75 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5975 INFO AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CPRS, PFOR, SNAR, MB, FR

SUBJECT: EXTRADITION - BETTANCOURT ET ALL

REF: STATE 11042

- 1. EMBOFF CALLED ON MME. BACCRO AND M. FROMONT, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, JANUARY 17 TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL. UNDER FRENCH PROCEDURE IT APPEARS THAT ARCHIBALD MAY NOT WAIVE EXTRADITION HEARING. HE MAY CONSENT TO EXTRADITION, BUT HIS PLEA OF CONSENT CAN BE MADE ONLY WHEN CASE APPEARS BEFORE CHAMBRE D'ACCUSATION. THE COURT THEN MAY QUESTION HIM TO DETERMINE THAT CONSENT IS IN FACT VOLUNTARY AND IF SATISFIED WOULD RENDER AN "AVIS DE CONSENTEMENT" RATHER THAN A DECISION TO ACCORD OR REFUSE EXTRADITION. "AVIS DE CONSENTEMENT" IS THEN FORWARDED TO MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, WHERE PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL OF EXTRADITION IS GREATLY SIMPLIFIED.
- 2. AS ARCHIBALD'S PLEA CONSENTING TO EXTRADITION WOULD BE MADE IN OPEN COURT, THERE APPEARS TO BE NO WAY HIS DECISION COULD BE CONCEALED FROM OTHER FUGITIVES. MOREOVER, AS CASE OF THE THREE ACCUSED FORMS ONE EXTRADILIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION CASE IN FRENCH VIEW, ARCHIBALD'S PLEA WOULD BE

HEARD IN SAME HEARING AS CASE AGAINST THE OTHER TWO. BACCRO AND FROMONT DID NOT THINK CONSENT BY ARCHIBALD WOULD PREJUDICE EXTRADITION CASE AGAINST BETTANCOURT AND GOMEZ.

3. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE HERE IS READY TO COOPERATE IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE TO EXPEDITE THIS CASE. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS UNREALISTIC TO THINK THAT DOCUMENTS RECEIVED HERE NEXT WEEK COULD BE TRANSMITED TO MARTINIQUE, HEARING BEFORE CHAMBRE D'ACCUSATION SCHEDULED, DECISION OF CHAMBRE D'ACCUSATION FORWARDED TO PARIS, AND THE REQUISITE PAPERWORK COMPLETED HERE TO PERMIT EXTRADITION BY MID-FEBRUARY. MME. BACCRO POINTED OUT, ALSO, THAT FRENCH CHARGES AGAINST THE THREE HAVE NOT BEEN DROPPED, AND THAT EXTRADITION IN ANY CASE COULD NOT BE GRANTED UNTIL REQUIREMENTS OF FRENCH JUSTICE HAVE BEEN MET. RUSH

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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